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EXAMINER

BARQADLE, YASIN M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2153

DATE MAILED: 09/11/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/468,447

Applicant(s)

MORROW ET AL

Examiner

Yasin M Barqadle

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: .

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DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-24 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Knox Pub. No. 20030103605.

As per claim 1, Knox teaches a status reporting system (SRS) for automatically reporting updated status of a project to an interested party based on status information stored in a status system, the SRS being communicatively coupled to the status system and comprising (abstract):

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a monitoring device (call out manager 16, fig. 1) contacting the status system to determine whether such status system has new status information stored therein and obtaining such new status information from the status system [database status changes are reported to clients automatically or upon client's request page 1, ¶ 0017. See also ¶ 0019]; and

an internal mail device receiving the obtained status information (call out manager 16 initiates transfer of information ¶ 0027), ascertaining from the received status information the interested party (system identifies clients who may have requested status information communication ¶ 0023), locating an electronic mail address for the interested party (communicating via e-mail, one must inherently locate the e-mail address of the client page 1, ¶ 0008), formatting the received status information into a piece of electronic mail which includes the received status information and the located electronic mail address, and forwarding the piece of electronic mail to the interested party by way of an electronic mail service [page 2, ¶ 0019-0026].

As per claim 2, Knox teaches The SRS of claim 1 wherein the electronic mail service is selected from a group consisting of an Internet E-Mail mail service, an Internet voice mail service, and a telephone-based voice mail service, and wherein

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the internal mail device formats the received status information into a piece of electronic mail compatible with the selected electronic mail service [page 2, ¶ 0021-0026].

As per claim 3, Knox teaches the SRS of claim 1 further comprising an ID database (change record 14, fig. 1, contains fields where data is stored page 2, ¶ 0019), wherein the status system tags the status information stored therein with an ID identifying the interested party, wherein the ID database includes a record having the ID and the electronic mail address for the interested party, and wherein the internal mail device locates the electronic mail address for the interested party from the ID database based on the ID tagged to the received status information [page 2, ¶ 0019-0026].

As per claim 4, Knox teaches the SRS of claim 3 wherein the ID database includes a record having the ID and electronic mail addresses for a plurality of interested parties, and wherein the internal mail device locates the electronic mail addresses for the plurality of interested parties from the ID database based on the ID tagged to the received status information, formats the received status information into a piece of electronic mail which includes the received status information and the located

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electronic mail addresses, and forwards the piece of electronic mail to the plurality of interested parties by way of the electronic mail service [page 2, ¶ 0019-0026].

As per claim 5, Knox teaches the SRS of claim 1 further comprising a status database including status data, the monitoring device referring to the status data in the status database in conjunction with determining whether the status system has new status information stored therein [page 2, ¶ 0019-0025].

As per claim 6, Knox teaches the SRS of claim 5 wherein the status data in the status database includes previous status information obtained from the status system for the project, and wherein the monitoring device compares the status information for the project as stored in the status database and the status information for the project as stored in the status system and notes differences that identify the new status information [page 2, ¶ 00219-0025].

As per claim 7, Knox teaches the SRS of claim 6 wherein the status database is updated with the new status information [page 2, ¶ 0019-0023].

As per claim 8, Knox teaches the SRS of claim 5 wherein each piece of status information stored in the status system is tagged with a time stamp, wherein the status data in the status database includes a time indicative of a last contact review of the status system by the monitoring device, and wherein the monitoring device obtains from the status system only those pieces of status information stored therein that have a time stamp later than the time of the last review as stored in the status database [page 2, ¶ 0019-0020 and ¶ 0025-0028].

As per claim 9, Knox teaches the SRS of claim 8 wherein the status database is updated with time indicative of the present review [page 2, ¶ 0019-0020 and ¶ 0025-0028].

As per claim 10, Knox teaches the SRS of claim 1 wherein the monitoring device contacts the status system and obtains the new status information therefrom automatically on a periodic basis [page 2, ¶ 0019-0023].

As per claim 11, Knox teaches the SRS of claim 1 for automatically reporting updated status of a plurality of projects to corresponding interested party based on status

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information stored in the status system, wherein the internal mail device receives obtained pieces of status information, ascertains from each received piece of status information the corresponding interested party, locates an electronic mail address for the corresponding interested party, formats the received piece of status information into a piece of electronic mail which includes the received piece of status information and the located corresponding electronic mail address, and forwards the piece of electronic mail to the corresponding interested party by way of the electronic mail service [page 2, ¶ 0019-0028].

As per claim 12, Knox teaches the SRS of claim 1 further comprising a memory storing the obtained new status information [page 2, ¶ 0019-0023].

As per claim 13, this is a method claim with similar limitations as claim 1 above. It is rejected for the same reasons as explained in claim 1 above.

As per claim 14, Knox teaches The SRS of claim 13 wherein the electronic mail service is selected from a group consisting of an Internet E-Mail mail service, an Internet voice mail service,

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and a telephone-based voice mail service, and wherein the internal mail device formats the received status information into a piece of electronic mail compatible with the selected electronic mail service [page 2, ¶ 0021-0026].

As per claim 15, Knox teaches the method of claim 13 comprising ascertaining the interested party from an ID identifying the interested party and tagged to the received status information and locating the electronic mail address for the interested party based on the ID tagged to the received status information [page 2, ¶ 0019-0026].

As per claim 16, Knox teaches the method of claim 15 comprising ascertaining a plurality of interested parties from an ID identifying the plurality of interested parties and tagged to the received status information and locating an electronic mail address for each interested party based on the ID tagged to the received status information [page 2, ¶ 0019-0026].

As per claim 17, Knox teaches the method of claim 13 further comprising referring to status data in conjunction with determining whether the status system has new status information stored therein [page 2, ¶ 0019-0023].

As per claim 18, Knox teaches the method of claim 17 wherein the status data includes previous status information obtained from the status system for the project, the method comprising comparing the previous status information for the project and the status information for the project as stored in the status system and noting differences that identify the new status information [page 2, ¶ 0019-0025].

As per claim 18, Knox teaches the method of claim 18 comprising updating the status data with the new status information [page 2, ¶ 0019-0023].

As per claim 19, Knox teaches the method of claim 17 wherein each piece of status information stored in the status system is tagged with a time stamp, and wherein the status data includes a time indicative of a last contact review of the status system, the method comprising obtaining from the status system only those pieces of status information stored therein that have a time stamp later than the time of the last review as stored in the status data [page 2, ¶ 0019-0020 and ¶ 0025-0028].

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As per claim 21, Knox teaches the method of claim 20 comprising updating the status data with a time indicative of the present review [page 2, ¶ 0019-0020 and ¶ 0025-0028].

As per claim 22, Knox teaches the method of claim 13 comprising contacting the status system 10 and obtaining the new status information therefrom automatically on a periodic basis [page 2, ¶ 0019-0023].

As per claim 23, Knox teaches the method of claim 13 comprising automatically reporting updated status of a plurality of projects to corresponding interested party based on status information stored in the status system [page 2, ¶ 0019-0023].

As per claim 24, Knox teaches the method of claim 13 further comprising storing the obtained new status information in a memory [page 2, ¶ 0019-0023].

Conclusion

The prior made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.


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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yasin M. Barqadle whose telephone number is 703-305-5971. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Burgess can be reached on 703-305-9717. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7239 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-304-3900.

Yasin Barqadle


GLENN B. BURGESS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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